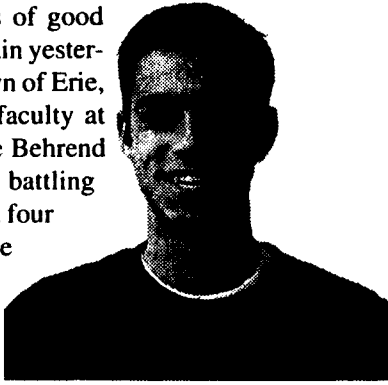




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Battle continues unabated

ERIE - The forces of good and evil clashed again yesterday in the small town of Erie, Pa. Students and faculty at Penn State Erie, the Behrend College have been battling nonstop for the past four weeks. The dispute began just before the start of the current spring semester when a new dean was finally appointed.



Ryan Anthony

Dean Rommel, a theater and drama major, announced his first official decision that day, cutting all funding to the school's engineering department, thus ending all engineering-related majors. Massive protests were held, but the situation grew entirely out of hand when Rommel next announced his future plans with the money formerly allotted to the engineers. Rommel's plans called for half of the newfound millions to be invested in snow removal efforts at the school. Apparently, Rommel does not like snow, so not only does he plan to salt and plow the walkways, but the grass, fields, and rooftops, as well. The other half would go to the humanities and business departments, making Behrend no longer a technical school, but a liberal arts college.

Outraged by this decision, engineering students and faculty banded together to form a militia. Attacks began on the Jan. 7, the first day of the current semester. Though some students still attempt to attend class, most are involved in the combat. The School of Business has formed an alliance with the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (H&SS) in attempt to defeat the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET).

Bob Simoneau, former director of SEET, was appointed general of the male-dominated army. Clare Porac and John Magenau, directors of the business and H&SS schools, share joint leadership in commanding the allied forces.

SEET initially severely damaged the Allies' departments with their surprise attack on January 7, wounding several students and professors as they reported to 8 a.m. classes.

It seems that most of the faculty and students in the humanities and business departments share the same sentiment, as their own army assembled by nightfall. Little structural damage was done to the Academic Building or Library, so Gen. Porac quickly dubbed these structures as the "Allied Fortress." SEET's complex includes Hammermill and Witkowski buildings, as well as their tangled web of connections to other buildings on the west end of campus.

"It seems those engineers are serious about getting their funding back," said Rommel. "But they cannot have it. I do not want to see a flake of snow on this campus all winter. The Allies will fight to the bitter end."

According to former U.S. Gen. "Stormin'" Norman Schwarzkopf, SEET holds the advantage in terms of force. "The engineers are equipped with state-of-the-art machinery and equipment that will allow them to build weapons of mass destruction. I'm sure some of those professors could build some heavy-duty weapons," he said. "Unfortunately, most students lack the reading and general knowledge capacity to use the weapons effectively. Once the professors have built the weapons, who is going to write a clear, grammatically-correct instruction manual for the student soldiers to read? You can bet your ass those English and Communications majors aren't going to help them now. That's where the Allies have the advantage."

Thus far in the "Battle for Behrend," as it is known, General Schwarzkopf's predictions are accurate. With the wealth of information in the library, the Allies have been fighting a much smarter war than SEET. In four weeks, SEET has not yet varied from its direct attack plan.

During the first week of battle, SEET forces attempted to enter the doors of the Allied Fortress every morning at 8 a.m., but the Allies were waiting for them every time. Launching volumes of the Oxford English Dictionary at the attackers with a makeshift catapult, the Allies knocked out many SEET soldiers and took control of their weapons.

Both sides have made advances over the past weeks. The Allies now occupy the Reed Building, and Niagara and Perry Halls. "Reed was a great achievement for us," General Magenau said. "Now our soldiers receive proper nutrition from the healthy meals stockpiled in Bruno's."

SEET quickly took control of all of the engineering buildings and eventually secured the Science Building. Though they occupy more area, Allied officials believe SEET is spreading itself too thin. MIS major, Cpl. Jerod Bollard said, "It's like playing Risk. You think you're doing well when you conquer all these new countries, but your opponent is secretly laughing at you because you are spreading yourself too thin."

"I'm a little bit worried," commented BLASC major and 2nd Lieut. Brandon Yeckel. "Our spies from the Communications Department tell us SEET is transforming the locomotive donated to them by GE into a tank. I hope our gunners can take it out before it takes us out."

Neither the Allies nor SEET are willing to call a ceasefire and sit down to negotiations. Numbers are sketchy, but dozens of students and professors are esti-

Anthony's column will appear whenever the engineers are done kicking the crap out of him.

Aldi's Product Review

By Nick Capozzoli

Many students believe that the goods at Aldi's are second rate when compared to the name brands that may be purchased at a big grocery chain such as Giant Eagle. In order to truly test a product, I feel that a side-by-side comparison is needed. Thus I chose to compare the grocery bags from Aldi's to those from Giant Eagle.

Cost
Aldi's \$0.10
Giant Eagle Free

In this category the Giant Eagle bag wins, hands down.

Durability

This test was difficult to design because of the need to simulate the everyday activities of the average student here at Behrend, and test each bag in that manner. In this category, real world testing was performed by dropping a six-pack of "Mountain Dew" into each bag from different heights to simulate rushing out the door on the way to a party. The test bags were then thrown down an average flight of stairs to simulate falling down an average flight of stairs (you never know).



Figure 2: Truck stop prophylactic

Aldi's - Withstands the most punishing of abuse. Repeated drops were made with little or no visible wear. When launched from atop the stairs, slight damage was evident, but this was offset by the fizzy foam that tickled my nose when I drank the beer...er...ahh... "Mountain Dew."

Giant Eagle - While withstanding moderate six-pack drops, my test bag blew open faster than a truck stop prophylactic when thrown from the stairs (see Figure 2.)

Ability to Conceal Contents

This test was based upon the tendency for my friends to "bum" beers from me when I enter a party. This generally occurs before I can get the beer to the fridge. I lay the blame not upon my friends, for they are only trying to get some sweet, sweet beer.

I blame the makers of the plastic bags, for not building a bag which better conceals the products contained therein. Testing was performed by walking past Mike Butala (a known "bum") with each bag loaded with beer, and then gauging his reaction. Aldi's - Butala's reaction: "What the (heck) did you buy at Aldi's?" Giant Eagle - Butala's reaction: "You're my best friend!" He then proceeded to ask for a beer.

Conclusions

Although somewhat more expensive than the competition, Aldi's bags are nearly indestructible, and cradle your beer in pillowy softness. I'm not saying that you can't transport your goods in a Giant Eagle bag, but if you like your beer spilled on the stairs and stolen while you cry like a little girl, that's your business.

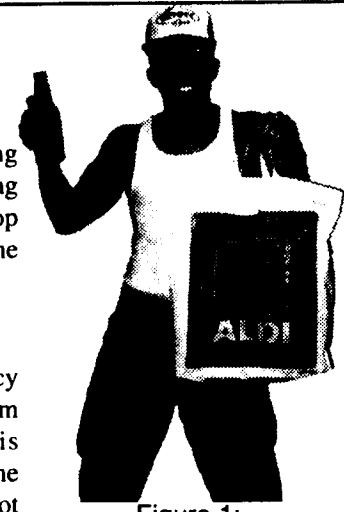


Figure 1: Another satisfied customer

Housing and Food Service Boozehound of the Week



Lenny "Action" Jackson



A few Saturdays ago "Action" Jackson walked from campus to the Country Fair on Buffalo Road at 6:30 a.m. to buy smokes. After he purchased smokes, he decided to take a brief nap inside Country Fair, which some may call "passing out." Wesleyville police did not look too kindly upon a disheveled, intoxicated young adult sleeping in Country Fair, so they arrested him for public drunkenness at 8:15 a.m. "Action" Jackson called the party he had left and received no answer, so he was forced to call his parents and have them drive 45 minutes to Erie to bail him out.

Dirty Teddys and The Behrend Beacon encourage students to drink responsibly. Boozehound of the Week was created to show what can happen when one consumes too much alcohol and makes a complete jackass out of him or herself.

Send your 50-100 word nomination for Boozehound of the Week to: behrroll2@aol.com. Note: We will not publish stories about criminal acts. If you want your name in the paper, the nomination must come from your psu personal account. If you want your picture in the paper, send a jpeg file along with your story.

An actual, real life letter from a real-life person!



I just want to say that I loved Butala's article in the new Beacon. I know some of the topics were kinda rough and I was surprised that Behrend even printed it, but I think it is exactly what this uptight college needs. Behrend seems to be too conservative, and if you look around many other colleges have funny (stuff) like this all the time. keep it up!

Joe Bianco
06 MET

Thanks, Joe. Your case of Heimie is on its way, but we're still working on that hooker.

-Ben

Recipe of the week!

How to make a Behrend house party

By: Ben Kundman

Ingredients:

- 1 basement
- 30 jell-o shots
- 1 strobe light
- 1 mediocre stereo system
- Beer pong necessities (1 ping-pong table, 2 ping-pong balls)
- 60 horny guys
- 10 girls
- 2 kegs of "beast" Ice
- 100 plastic cups
- 1 black light
- 3 cds of crappy dance music

Instructions:

Add 2 kegs of "beast" Ice 30 jell-o shots 50 plastic cups, Beer pong necessities, 1 strobe light, 1 black light, 1 mediocre stereo system, 3 cds of crappy dance music, 60 horny guys and 10 girls to 1 basement. Allow 60 horny guys to soak in 1 keg "beast" ice for 1 hour. Allow 10 girls to soak in 30 jell-o shots for 1 hour. Mix 60 horny guys and 10 girls together. Add mixture to 1 keg of beast ice and stir liberally for 2-3 hours.

Recipe yields:

1 messy basement, 70 hangovers, 3 used condoms, and 1 unwanted pregnancy.

Mike Butala's Wishful Thinking

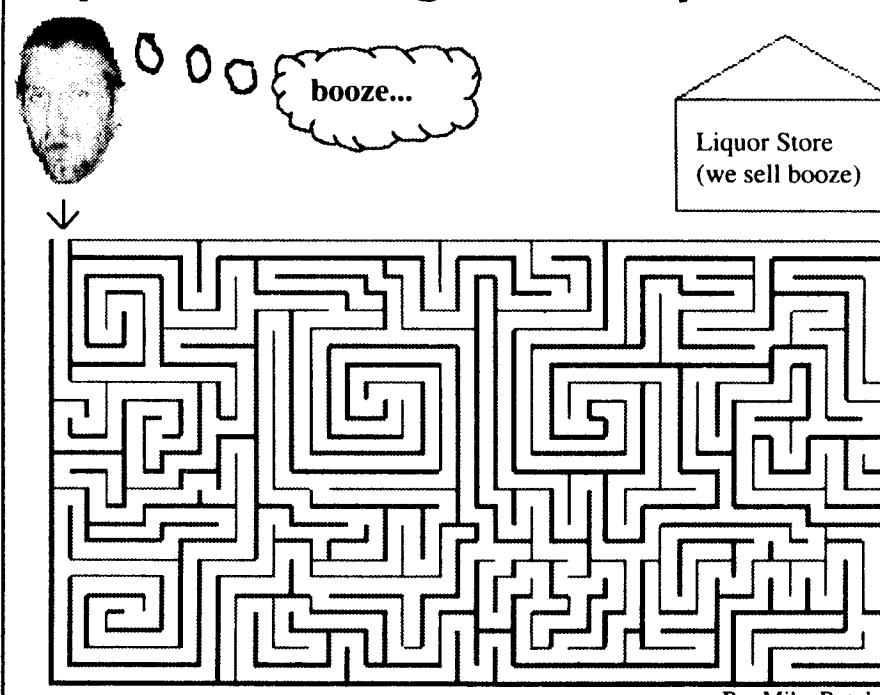
In a perfect world, Aldi's would make cigarettes.



Aldi's sells everything except cigarettes, and why not? For some reason Aldi's frowns upon the tobacco industry, America's first cash crop. If Aldi's sold cigarettes, not only would they attract more business, smokers would save a lot of money.

Coming next week: CAP UNDERCOVER

Help Ben Kundman get to the Liquor Store



By: Mike Butala

Bruno the evil



I have a secret to share. Are you ready? Don't tell anyone. All right. Here goes...Bruno, Behrend's beloved dog, isn't dead. Nope. He's alive.

Karl Benacci

It all started during spring semester, 2000. I was the co-news editor for the Beacon and I thought it would be funny to write an article about Bruno and his spirit being on campus for the April Fool's issue. I wrote about the eyes on his painting moving and looking at me, along with his paw prints showing up everywhere on campus.

It was a big mistake. He came after me. The terror began one night last year, when I was a sophomore in room 420A of Ohio Hall (no joke!). I had watched a Scooby Doo marathon and was tired from a long day of pole dancing practice.

I woke up to a strange feeling on my neck. It felt like someone was breathing against it, and I could also feel something wet. I later concluded it was a wet nose against my neck.

I slowly awakened and looked into the darkness, feeling nothing. Then I saw them. Two glowing eyes. At first, I thought it was Scooby Doo, so I asked where Daphne was.

A low growl penetrated the air and I froze, realizing at that moment it wasn't Scooby Doo or Daphne. It was Bruno.

"You piece of crap!" He roared, as he tried to wrap his paws around my neck, adding, "Never mock me!" I tried to scream, but no sound came out. He leaned in close,

and I could smell his rotten dog breath, which came from eating the food from the eatery named after he. He sunk his canines into my neck, drawing blood. After a taste, he jumped out the window, laughing, as he floated toward the ground, his ears acting as a parachute.

It was all downhill from there. Bruno started stalking me. He began attending my pole dancing wearing pink spandex tights, mocking me as he shook his tail to "The Hustle," stealing the Best New Pole Dancer award from me.

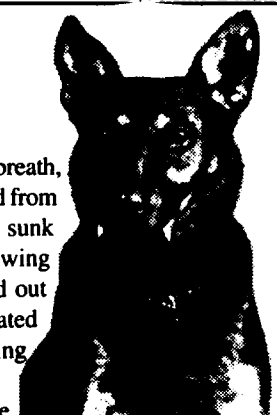
What else? Bruno stole my girlfriend from me. He wore Polo and Tommy clothes and took her dancing, seducing her with his witty jokes.

Heck, he even hid in the vents and spied on me during class, smiling menacingly when I peeked back to see if he was there, waving at him to buzz off.

Yes, you've figured it out. Bruno is a vampire. When I learned this, I searched everywhere for his body, because I wanted to drive a stake into his heart, but I couldn't find him.

That's when I met my sidekick. It was a hazy autumn night, last semester. Bruno had broken into my apartment and left a disgusting surprise in our beds, so I fled to the gorge and hiked to the bottom. I heard some strange sounds behind a set of trees, and to my surprise, I found a big, injured animal.

It was covered in white fur and smelled like Ben Kundman. He was trapped under a tree, which I rolled off him. He smiled at me and followed me back to my apartment, where we ate pizza.



Karl's Top 10 Things that Suck

10. Scary bugs that look at me and smile
9. People who wear sunglasses on a cloudy day
8. Small desks
7. Funco Land and Endless Entertainment, who continually raise the prices of their games
6. Mini-vans
5. Road kill, except when strewn upon a mini-van
4. Icy roads that cause Karl much grief
3. Guys who wear rings on their fingers (excluding the wedding ring)
2. Girls who think they're hot but aren't, a.k.a. they're chitty chitty but they ain't Bang Bang
1. People who are mean to others. They're mean because they have low-self esteem

I searched the web and leaned my new friend was a Yeti. I fed him spaghetti and taught him how to speak broken English, and told him how tough it was to put up with Bruno and his antics.

Luckily, the Yeti swore revenge on Bruno and the two of us went to the Junker Center on the night of a full moon, poised for battle with Bruno (the Yeti has psychic ability).

Bruno caught us off guard, throwing a pawful of salt into the Yeti's eyes. I fought Bruno with all the strength I had, kicking him and punching him. The knockout punch was truly spectacular, as I threw an uppercut that sent mist off the dog's wet nose. After landing against the bleachers and falling to the ground, he huddled in the corner, his tail between his legs, begging for mercy.

He and I made a deal that night. Here's how it went: Bruno promised to be nice to the Yeti and I, and also promised to invite us to his wild parties. He even offered me a great deal in the end. He volunteered to terrorize and suck the blood of anyone who made me mad, including professors who gave bad grades, mean people, and people who dislike John Stockton, Karl Malone and the Utah Jazz.

I am now very happy. The Yeti lives with my roommate and me in my on-campus apartment. I still see Bruno every week at the local shuffle board tournament/swap meet, sporting a money clip and a pair of Timberlands, his arm around my ex-girl.

I usually smile and wave, knowing he has my back.

Benacci's column will next appear after he gets back from the U.S. pole-dancing championship in Salt Lake City, Utah